Rate of interest on EPF

2476. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:
Stf Rl EKANATH K. THAKUR:
SHRI BALAWANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to offer different rates of interest to workers on Employees' Provident Fund with different EPF deposits, the rate being higher for lower deposits below a certain level;

(b) if so, the details of the new scheme; and

(c) what is the reaction of different national labour unions thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise, in view of (a) above.

Growth rate of unemployment

2477. SHRI MATILALSARKAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the growth rate of unemployment is lesser than the growth rate of population in the country.

(b) whether it is also a fact that the percentage of the landless is on the increase from year to year; if so, the percentage-wise details thereof;

(c) the effective measures contemplated by Government to contain the problem of unemployment and those of the landless persons?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) As per the estimates available from employment and unemployment surveys of National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), unemployment rate during 1993-94 and 1999-2000 was around 1.90% and 2.23% respectively. As per the Census 2001, growth rate of population during 1991-2001 was around 2.13% per annum.

(b) As per the information available from the surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation, around 6% of the households in the rural areas were without owned land in 1993-94. Whereas in 1999-2000, around 10.2% of the rural households owned less than 0.01 hectares of land.

(c) Work has begun on drafting a Bill for National Employment Guarantee Act to provide a legal guarantee for at least 100 days of employment to begin with on asset-creating public works programmes every year at minimum wages for at least one able bodied person in every poor household.

Waitlist of job-seekers in Pubjab and Rajasthan

2478. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons still on the waitlist of job-seekers in each employment exchange, in Rajasthan and Punjab, district-wise as on date;

(b) the rate of registration of new candidates, per year; and

(c) the details of the ratio of job opportunities provided by each exchange to the number of registration for the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) Number of job-seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, on the live register of employment exchanges in Rajasthan and Punjab as on 31st May, 2004 was 8.6 lakhs and 4.8 lakhs respectively. District-wise figures are not maintained.

(b) During the period 2001-03 average annual rate of registrations of new job-seekers was around 1.69 lakh in Rajasthan and 96 thousand in Punjab.

(c) Ratio of the Placement to Registration during 2001, 2002 and 2003 in Rajasthan and Punjab was as under: